GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3260
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2007
EXTRADITION TREATIES WITH COUNTRIES
Singh Shri Mohan

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the countries with which India has already signed extradition treaty alongwith the years in which these treaties were signed;

(b) the salient features of such treaties;

(c) whether India proposes to enter with some more countries including Portugal and Argentina;

(d) if so, the time by which these treaties are likely to be signed with Portugal and Argentina;

(e) the names of the countries which have declined to sign the treaty and the reasons therefor;

(f) the difficulties encountered/being encountered in signing these treaties; and

(g) the extent to which these treaties are helpful to India?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED)

(a) Extradition Treaties are in force with: Belgium (1958), Nepal (1963), Canada (1987), Netherlands (1989), U.K (1993), Switzerland (1996), Bhutan, Hong Kong (1997), USA (1999), Russia, UAE (2000), Uzbekistan (2002), Spain, Turkey (2003), Mongolia, Germany, Tunisia, Republic of Korea (2004), Bahrain, South Africa, Oman, France, Poland (2005), Bulgaria and Ukraine (2006). Treaties with Mauritius, Tajikistan (2003), Kuwait, Philippines (2004) and Portugal (2007) have been signed but are yet to be ratified. India has Extradition arrangements with Sweden (1963), Tanzania (1966), Australia (1971), Singapore (1972), Sri Lanka, Papua New Guinea (1978), Fiji (1979), Thailand (1982), Portugal (2002) and Italy (2003).

(b) These treaties provide a legal framework for extradition of fugitive offenders and specify circumstances and conditions governing the process of extradition between Contracting States.

(c)&(d) India has signed an extradition treaty with Portugal in January 2007 which is yet to be ratified. However, India has Extradition arrangements with Portugal. India proposes to enter into Extradition treaties with more countries subject to mutual agreement.

(e) No country has declined.

(f) Bilateral negotiations between two countries to conclude such treaties are time consuming, particularly in view of the need to accommodate the viewpoints of the negotiating parties.

(g) Extradition treaties provide India a legal framework to extradite from the concerned countries, fugitive criminals for trial in respect of extraditable offences committed by them so as to ensure that persons accused of such offences do not escape justice.